

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 H-01

INR-05 IO-10 L-02 NSC-05 SP-02 OCE-00 PRS-01 RSC-01

SS-15 USSS-00 SY-04 FAA-00 WRD-01 SCCT-01 /078 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:MWWILEY:CFE

APPROVED BY NEA/AFN:MWWILEY

S/CCT:JNGATCH

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Z 222001Z NOV 74 ZFF6

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON FLASH

INFO AMEMBASSY TUNIS FLASH

AMEMBASSY CAIRO FLASH

S E C R E T STATE 258262

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS,OGEN

SUBJECT: HIJACKED VC-10

REF: STATE 258025

1. BRITISH EMBASSY OFFICER PHONED DEPARTMENT OFFICER AND CONVEYED SUBSTANCE OF INSTRUCTIONS SENT BY LONDON TO BRITISH EMBASSIES IN TUNIS AND CAIRO. BRITISH EMBASSY TUNIS INSTRUCTED TO CONVEY MESSAGE TO HIJACKERS THAT BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAD TRANSMITTED THEIR MESSAGE TO EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT BUT THAT DEADLINE WAS TOO SHORT FOR THEM TO OBTAIN EGYPTIAN RESPONSE. BRITISH AMBASSADOR IN CAIRO INSTRUCTED TO INFORM EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT THAT HMG CONSIDERS THAT PROBLEM SHOULD BE NEGOTIATED BETWEEN EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT AND HIJACKERS AND URGES EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT TO INSTRUCT ITS AMBASSADOR IN TUNIS TO DEAL WITH HIJACKERS. IF POSSIBLE, HMG HOPES THAT EGYPTIANS

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WOULD SEND SPECIAL ENVOY TO TUNIS TO HANDLE NEGOTIATIONS.

HMG ALSO ADVISED EGYPT TO PLAY FOR TIME AND EXPRESSED CONCERN FOR THE LIVES OF THE HOSTAGES.

2. BRITISH EMBASSY OFFICER IN WASHINGTON ASKED DEPARTMENT OFFICER FOR USG COMMENTS ON SITUATION. DEPARTMENT OFFICER REPLIED THAT USG HAD TRANSMITTED PSYCHOLOGICAL GUIDELINES

FOR DEALING WITH AIRCRAFT HIJACKING TO GOT AND THAT THESE GUIDELINES EMPHASIZED DELAY AND THE WEARING DOWN OF THE HIJACKERS PHYSICALLY AND EMOTIONALLY. DEPT. OFFICER ALSO SAID THAT USG AGREES THAT BRITISH APPROACH MAKES SENSE. IF EGYPTIANS AGREE TO DEAL WITH HIJACKERS THEY COULD BE VERY HELPFUL AS EGYPTIAN DIPLOMATS HAVE BEEN IN OTHER HIJACKINGS IN THE PAST.

3. BRITISH EMBASSY OFFICER THANKED THE DEPARTMENT OFFICER FOR COMMENTS AND SAID HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH IF HE RECEIVED ANY FURTHER INFORMATION ON DEVELOPMENTS ON THE HIJACKING.

4. FYI: QUESTION OF RELEASE OF TERRORISTS HELD IN CAIRO HAS NOT BEEN RAISED WITH USG BY EITHER EGYPTIANS OR BRITISH. IF IT IS RAISED IN LONDON YOU SHOULD REPLY THAT IF ASKED BY EGYPTIANS, USG WILL RESPOND ALONG LINES PARA 2, STATE 258025. END FYI. INGERSOLL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE258262
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MWWILEY:CFE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740339-0648
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741119/aaaaapql.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 258025
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUN 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <24 MAR 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HIJACKED VC-10
TAGS: PINS, OGEN, EG, UK
To: LONDON
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005